

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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AA

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|

09/430, 904

11/01/99

WEBB

S 839-636

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | EXAMINER |
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MMC2/0608

PEREZ, R

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2834

DATE MAILED:

06/08/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/430,904 | WEBB ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Guillermo Perez | 2834 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some * c) None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:

1. received.

2. received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) ____.

3. received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.

18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.

19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

20) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1 to 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holter (U. S. Pat. No. 5, 266, 856) in view of Lemelson (U. S. Pat. No. 5, 096, 352).

Holter discloses a dynamo-electric machine (10) comprising a seal casing (12) and an endshield (10), wherein said seal casing and said endshield are secured by a plurality of electrically insulated bolts (20 and column 4, lines 5 to 9), each bolt having a head with an integral flange and a threaded shank. However, Holter does not disclose that some portion of said shank and the underside of said integral flange have an electrically insulating powder composition coating applied thereto; nor that said coating has a thickness of about 0.004 to about 0.014 in.; nor that said coating remains functional fully tightened and at an electrical potential of about 5000 VDC.

Lemelson discloses that some portion of said shank and the underside of said integral flange have an electrically insulating composition coating applied thereto (column 4, lines 2 to 6); and that

 said coating has a thickness of about 0.004 to about 0.014 in (column 6, lines 14 to 24; and that

said coating remains functional fully tightened, for the purpose of increase the strength thereof, protect the surfaces of such fasteners against surface failure during use, protect the fastener materials against chemical and heat corrosion as well as physical attrition and insulate the fasteners electrically.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the dynamo-electric machine of Holter and provide it with some portion of the shank and the underside of the integral flange having an electrically insulating composition coating applied thereto; and the coating having a thickness of about 0.004 to about 0.014 in.; and the coating remaining functional fully tightened as disclosed by Lemelson, for the purpose of increase the strength thereof, protect the surfaces of such fasteners against surface failure during use, protect the fastener materials against chemical and heat corrosion as well as physical attrition and insulate the fasteners electrically.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select an electrically insulating powder composition coating, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the coating functional at an electrical potential of about 5000 VDC since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Boesch*, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980).

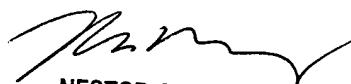
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Guillermo Perez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5443. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308 1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305 3432 for regular communications and (703) 305 3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0956.

GP
June 7, 2000



NESTOR RAMIREZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800